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DD/I NOTICE 25-115-1

22 August 1960

CRITERIA TO BE USED IN RECOMMENDING
LANGUAGE AWARDS

(Reference: CIA Reg. [REDACTED])

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1. CIA Regulation [REDACTED] revised 5 May 1960, deals with the overall language development program in the Agency and its subsidiary awards program. This regulation, among other things, modifies the initial concept of the awards program in terms of the bases used in determining eligibility for language awards, shifting the emphasis from simply interest in language study on the part of the trainee to a determination by Operating Officials that the language once acquired will have some immediate or potential usefulness in the Agency. Throughout the regulation the statement is repeated in one variation or another that eligibility for an award will be based on a determination by the Operating Official concerned that the language skills to be acquired are of current or potential usefulness to the organization.

2. The purpose of this Notice is to define the policies whereby language awards may be recommended by the Heads of Career Services and Operating Officials within the DD/I area:

a. Directed language study by definition meets the standard of usefulness set forth in CIA Regulation [REDACTED] and is therefore awardable.

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b. Voluntary language study on the part of DD/I personnel on their own time should be encouraged. If the current or potential usefulness of this training within his office can be foreseen by the Operating Official concerned then such training merits approval for an award. If, on the other hand, the Operating Official cannot foresee the value of this to any of the operations over which he has jurisdiction he may approve the training as such but this approval will not constitute approval for an award.

3. The above criteria are set forth in an effort to place the administration of the language award program on a practical basis. An Operating Official in most instances can make a realistic determination as to whether or not language training of a given individual will meet a current or future need of the office. This

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same official generally cannot, however, attest to the potential usefulness of such language skills in any office outside of his own, except in the rarest of circumstances, because so many other factors must be weighed in determining whether or not the individual might ever be assigned outside of his current office.


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